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Georgia Southern University



Rainey Named to Rimington Award Watch List

Award given to nation's top collegiate center

Football

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NEW YORK - Georgia Southern's [Curtis Rainey](#) was named to the "watch list" for the 2018 Rimington Trophy, which is presented annually to the most outstanding center in college football.

Rainey, a senior from Jacksonville, is entering his second season as the Eagles' starter at center, but his third as a starter for GS. Rainey played in all 12 games last season, starting nine, and earned honorable mention All-Sun Belt honors. He was on the field for a total of 857 snaps (814 offensive, 43 special teams) and played a season-high 89 snaps against Arkansas State.

In order to create the 2018 Rimington Trophy "watch list", the committee accepted nominations from programs across the country that submitted their current starting centers for consideration. This preseason, centers were nominated from every conference, with 57 total nominees and 27 past watch listers. The Pac-12 leads the list with 10 nominations followed by the ACC with eight.

The following is a list of those named to the 2018 Spring Watch List:

American Athletic

UConn – Ryan Crozier, Sr., 6'4, 294
Houston – Will Noble, Sr., 6'5, 295
Memphis – Drew Kyser, Sr., 6'5, 300
Temple – Matt Hennessy, So., 6'4, 295
Tulsa – Chandler Miller, Sr., 6'3, 293
UCF – Jordan Johnson, Jr., 6'2, 320

ACC

Clemson – Justin Falcinelli, Grad., 6'4, 305
Duke – Zach Harmon, Sr., 6'3, 285
Florida State -- Alec, Eberle, Sr., 6'4, 295
Georgia Tech, Kenny Cooper, Jr., 6'3, 307
Miami – Tyler Curtis Gauthier, Sr., 6'5, 305
NC State – Garrett McCain Bradbury, Sr., 6'3, 300
Virginia Tech – Kyle Chung, Sr., 6'3, 310
Wake Forest – Ryan Anderson, Sr., 6'6, 305

Big Ten

Iowa – Keegan Render, Sr., 6'4, 307

Maryland – Brendan Moore, Sr., 6'3, 302
Minnesota – Jared Weyler, Sr., 6'4, 296
Penn State -- Connor, McGovern, Jr., 6'5, 320
Purdue – Kirk Barron, Sr., 6'2, 300

Big 12

Baylor – Sam Tecklenburg, Jr., 6'3, 306
Kansas State -- Adam, Holtorf, Jr., 6'4, 295
Oklahoma – Jonathan Alvarez, Sr., 6'3, 315
Texas – Zach Shackelford, Jr., 6'4, 305
Texas Tech – Paul Stawarz, Sr., 6'6, 295

C-USA

Marshall – Levi Brown, Jr., 6'4, 293
North Texas – Sosaia Mose, Jr., 6'2, 305
Old Dominion – Nick Clarke, Sr., 6'4, 312
UAB – Lee Dufour, Jr., 6'3, 300
UTEP – Derron Gatewood, Sr., 6'2, 297

Independent

Army – Bryce Holland, Sr., 6'2, 295
Notre Dame – Sam Mustipher, Grad., 6'2.5, 304

MAC

Ball State – Andrew Poenitsch, Jr., 6'3, 284
Buffalo – James O'Hagan, Sr., 6'3, 305
Eastern Michigan – Dakota Tallman, Sr., 6'5, 310
Miami (OH) – Danny Godlevske, So., 6'2, 305
NIU – Luke Shively, RS, Sr., 6'3, 286
Western Michigan – John Keenoy, Sr., 6'3, 300

Mountain West

Nevada – Sean Krepsz, Sr., 6'5, 325
Utah State – Quin Ficklin, Sr., 6'2, 290

Pac-12

Arizona – Nathan Eldridge, Jr., 6'3, 297
Arizona State – Cohl Cabral, Jr., 6'5, 291
California – Addison Ooms, Sr., 6'4, 295
Oregon – Jake Hanson, Jr., 6'5, 298
Oregon State – Sumner Houston, Sr., 6'2, 290
Stanford – Jesse Burkett, Sr., 6'4, 309
USC – Toa Lobendahn, Sr., 6'3, 290
Utah – Lo Falemaka, Sr., 6'5, 295
Washington -- Nick Harris, Jr., 6'1, 297
Washington State – Frederick Mauigoa, Jr., 6'3, 310

SEC

Florida -- T.J. McCoy, Jr., 6'1, 314
Georgia – Lamont Gaillard, Sr., 6'2, 308
Mississippi State – Elgton Jenkins, Sr., 6'4, 315
Ole Miss – Sean Rawlings, Sr., 6'5, 294
South Carolina – Donell Stanley, Jr., 6'3, 318
Texas A&M – Erik McCoy, Jr., 6'4, 315

Sun Belt

Georgia Southern – [Curtis Rainey](#), Sr., 6'2, 290
Troy – Deontae Crumitie, Sr., 6'2, 296

While more than a dozen All-America teams are selected annually, the Rimington Trophy committee used these three prestigious teams to determine a winner:

- Walter Camp Foundation (WCF)
- Sporting News (SN)
- Football Writers Association of America (FWAA)

Because the selectors of these three All-America teams can place centers in a "mix" of offensive linemen that includes guards and tackles, their 11-man first teams can often have two centers. The Rimington Trophy committee's policy is to count all players that play primarily the center position for their respective teams as centers, even though they may be listed as guards or tackles on the All- America teams.

The center with the most first team votes will be determined the winner. If there is a tie with first team votes, then the center with the most second team votes will win. If there is still a tie, the winner will be determined by a majority vote from the Rimington Trophy committee. The winner will be recognized at the Rimington Trophy Presentation at the Rococo Theatre in Lincoln, Nebraska, on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019.

* * *

About the Rimington Trophy

The Rimington Trophy is presented annually to the most outstanding center in NCAA Division I College Football. Since its inception, the seventeen-year old award has raised over \$3.6 million for the Boomer Esiason Foundation, which is committed to finding a cure for cystic fibrosis.

Dave Rimington, the award's namesake, was a consensus first-team All-America center at the University of Nebraska in 1981 and 1982, during which time he became the John Outland Trophy's only two-time winner as the nation's finest college interior lineman. For more on the Rimington Trophy and a list of past recipients, visit www.rimingtontrophy.com

The Rimington Trophy is a member of the National College Football Awards Association (NCFAA), which encompasses the most prestigious awards in college football. Visit www.NCFAA.org to learn more about our story.
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